

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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TAGS: ELAB, PE

SUBJECT: CGTP CHALLENGED FROM THE LEFT

REF: LIMA 9226

1. SO-CALLED ULTRA LEFT UNIONS; AMONG THEM THE TEACHERS (SUTEP), MINERS, INCLUDING THE CENTROMIN FEDERATION, AND DISGRUNTLED CGTP ELEMENTS HELD THE FIRST NATIONAL "CLASSIST" LABOR ASSEMBLY NOV. 9 AND 10. ASSEMBLY'S DECLARED PRUPOSE WAS REORGANIZATION OF THE A CGTP, WHICH ACCORDING TO PROMOTERS OF THE ASSEMBLY HAS LOST ITS WORKING CLASS ORIENTATION. ASSEMBLY WAS ANTI-GOVERNMENT IN TONE. DEMANDS INCLUDED THE RELEASE OF WORKERS, PEASANTS AND TEACHERS IMPRISONED FOR LABOR ACTIVITIES, GOP RECOGNITION OF SUTEP, AND PERHAPS MOST IMPORTANTLY A GENERAL WAGE INCREASE OF 100 PERCENT. THE ASSEMBLY CALLED ON PEASANTS TO REJECT GOP-ORGANIZED PEASANT CONFERATION CNA AND TO SUPPORT SUTEP IN ITS STRUGGLE AGAINST MILITARY GOVERNMENT EDUCATION REFORM. ASSEMBLY PROMOTERS DECLARED THEIR EFFORT A SUCCESS AND CLAIMED TO REPRESENT 750,000 WORKERS OR "50 PERCENT OF ALL NATIONALLY-ORGANIZED WORKERS ACCORDING TO 1970 STATISTICS".

2. HOWEVER EXAGGERATED THIER CLAIMS, THE "ULTRAS" ELICITED A CGTP REACTION. THE CGTP NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDEMNED THE ASSEMBLY AS AN ANTI-CGTP PLOT "ORCHESTRATED AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL

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BY APRA" AND WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF TROTSKYITES, MAOISTS,

AND OTHERS. ULTRA-LEFTISTS WERE RIDICULED AS POWERLESS
A NARCHEISTS PLAYING AN IMPERIALIST GAME WHILE THE CGTP WITH ITS
CLAIMED 480,000 MEMBERS WAS THE "REPRESENTATIVE OF A UNITED
DISCIPLINED WORKING CLASS".

3. COMMENT: PRESS ACCOUNTS OF ULTRA-LEFT LABOR
ASSEMBLY INDICATES USUAL CONFRONTATION BETWEEN TROTSKYITES
AND MAOISTS REPLETE WITH WALK-OUTS AND RUMP SESSIONS. ASSEMBLY
ANS SUBSEQUENT WAR OF WORDS IS EVIDENCE, HOWEVER, OF A STRENGTH-
ENING IN FAR LEFT GROUPS AT CGTP EXPENSE. AS INFLATION CONTINUES
TO ERODE WORKERS' INCOME, CGTP DIFFICULTIES WILL INCREASE IN
OFFERING SUPPORT FOR THE REVOLUTION WHILE AT THE SAME TIME RESPONDING
TO WORKERS' DEMANDS. WORKERS' SYMPATHIES ARE LIKELY
TO FLOW TOWARD THOSE UNIONS LIKE THE SUTEP WHICH DEMAND 100
PERCENT ACROSS THE BOARD WAGE INCREASES AND WHICH DIRECTLY
CHALLENGE UNPOPULAR GOP PROGRAMS. SUCH A TREND MAY INCREASE
PROBABILITY OF LABOR UNREST.

4. IT IS QUESTIONABLE, HOWEVER, WHETHER ENOUGH
MOMENTUM CAN BE GENERATED TO CREATE A NEW INDEPENDENT
ANTI-GOVERNMENT, ULTRA-LEFT LABOR CENTRAL. THE
GOP WILL BE WORKING TO FRUSTRATE ANY SUCH ATTEMPT AND THE
CGTP HAS FINANCES AS WELL AS SOME CAPABILITY TO LAUNCH ORGANIZATIONAL
COUNTER OFFENSIVE. APRA, ALTHOUGH ACCUSED OF MASTER-
MINDING THIER ACTIVITIES, HAS NO INTEREST IN UNITY OF THE
ULTRA-LEFT. FINALLY, THE QUALITY OF LEADERSHIP AND ANARCHICAL
TENDENCIES AMONG FAR LEFT LEADERS WILL LIKELY UNDERMINE UNITY
EFFORTS. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT IN HIS NOV. 28 DEPARTURE
STATEMENT OUT-GOING LABMIN SALA OROSCO DECLARED THAT THE CTP IS
THE ONLY UNION WITH QUALIFIED LEADERSHIP. WHETHER THAT LEADER-
SHIP CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CGTP POLEMICS WITH THE LEFT IS AN
OPEN QUESTION.

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